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Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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In the Matter of )

Deployment of Wireline Services Offering )  
Advanced Telecommunications Services )

CC Docket No. 98-147

**COMMENTS OF AT&T CORP. IN SUPPORT OF PETITION  
FOR PARTIAL RECONSIDERATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION**

AT&T Corp. ("AT&T") submits these comments in support of the petition for partial reconsideration and/or clarification filed by Sprint Corporation ("Sprint") on June 1, 1999.

As Sprint demonstrates, incumbent LECs will interpret (and are interpreting) the Commission's collocation rules as narrowly as possible to foreclose the ability of new entrants to provide competitive local exchange and advanced services. For example, BellSouth takes the position that the Commission's *Advanced Services First Report and Order*<sup>1</sup> does not require adjacent space collocation because such space would not be located at its "premises." If BellSouth's erroneous interpretation were to be followed, new entrants would be denied the ability to locate their own facilities immediately adjacent to incumbent LEC remote terminals and to provide competitive facilities-based services. The Commission therefore should clarify that incumbent LECs must provide requesting carriers with adjacent space collocation on property that is adjacent to incumbent LEC premises when space inside incumbent LEC premises is exhausted.

<sup>1</sup> Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability, First Report and Order, CC Docket No. 98-147, FCC 99-48 (rel. Mar. 31, 1999) ("*Advanced Services First Report and Order*").

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Sprint also establishes that incumbent LECs are ignoring the Commission's rules when they insist that they have the right to require segregation of CLEC equipment.

Rule 51.323(k)(2) requires that:

[A]n incumbent LEC must give competitors the option of collocating equipment in any unused space within the incumbent's premises, and may not require competitors to collocate in a room or isolated space separate from the incumbent's own equipment.

47 C.F.R. § 51.323(k)(2). Although the Commission's rules are clear, ILEC actions demonstrate the need for the Commission to reiterate that its rules mean what they say – incumbent LECs may not require the construction of walls or similar structures to separate CLEC equipment from incumbent LEC equipment.

Incumbent LECs also have the incentive to deny competitors essential collocation space by reserving such space indefinitely for the ILEC's (or for its affiliate's) own use. In order to help prevent such abuse, where an incumbent LEC claims that space is exhausted at a particular ILEC premise, state commissions should be required to ensure that reservation of space by the ILEC (or its affiliate) is limited to one year and justified by specific business plans. The Commission should also establish a minimum standard interval of no more than 90 calendar days in which a requesting carrier must be allowed to physically collocate at a particular LEC premise, so long as previously conditioned or prepared space is available. The Commission should also establish a minimum standard interval of no more than 180 calendar days from the date the requesting carrier submits its application to providing collocation space, when the space requested is not conditioned or properly prepared in advance.

Finally, because several different CLECs will be providing advanced services over the incumbent LEC's loops, the Commission should clarify that the ILEC should be

the initial point of contact for claims of service degradation.

For the above reasons, and those set forth in Sprint's petition, the petition for clarification and/or reconsideration should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

AT&T CORP.

By Stephen C. Garavito  
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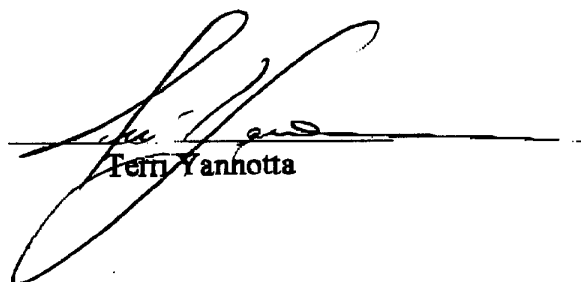
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Dated: July 12, 1999

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Terri Yannotta, do hereby certify that on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1999, a copy of the "Comments of AT&T Corp. In Support Of Petition For Partial Reconsideration And/Or Clarification" was sent via first-class mail, postage prepaid to the party listed below:

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Terri Yannotta

Dated: July 12, 1999